

BURWELL PARISH COUNCIL

SAFETY GROUP

Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th October 2021 at 11 am

At Mandeville Hall

Present: Paul Webb (Chair), Robin Dyos, Gill Miller, Jim Perry, Liz Swift, and Brenda Wilson

S/051021/01 Apologies for absence and declarations of interests

Apologies for absence had been received from Lea Dodds and Helen McMenamin-Smith (received after the meeting).

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Robin Dyos nominated Paul Webb as Chair, seconded by Liz Swift, and agreed by the Group.

Liz Swift nominated Robin Dyos as Chair, seconded by Brenda Wilson, and agreed by the Group.

Liz Swift asked that all members adhered to meeting protocol particularly when a recommendation has been agreed by the Group to put to Full Council.

Paul Webb expressed the need to work as a Group, particularly with the Safety Campaign and being prepared to take over from others where necessary and if information becomes available that may change a recommendation to the Full Council, to discuss this prior to the meeting with the Chair of the Group, Chair of the Council or Clerk.

S/051021/02 Approval of minutes of the meeting held on 20th July 2021 and 16th

August 2021

Minutes of the meetings held on 20th July 2021 and 16th August 2021 were approved.

S/051021/03 Consideration of and updates to the Action Sheet and minutes

It was agreed that a meeting either face to face or on Zoom with Officer/s from County Council Highways should be arranged as soon as possible to discuss both the Safety Campaign and highway issues within the village.

The Clerk informed the Group that although nothing had been heard directly from Suffolk County Council, Rebecca Saunt (ECDC Planning Officer) had reported at a recent meeting with the Chair and Clerk that the project is moving on in the background. The planning application for the development in Exning is due to be determined in the next month or so.

The potholes have still not been repaired in Swan Alley and continue to be a trip hazard, especially as a tree is shadowing the light in one direction. The Clerk reported that Street Lighting do not have the power to cut the branches back. Ownership of the land the tree is standing on to be determined. Once determined, a letter asking the resident to trim back the tree will be sent.

The changes to the exit at Gardiner Memorial Hall are likely to be carried out during the second phase of the project.

It was noted that ECDC has highlighted the need for good cycleways between Burwell and Swaffham Prior and Burwell to Fordham in a recent report.

The Cambridgeshire Combined Authority is looking for a rural village to run an E Bike Trial.

The following recommendation to be made to Full Council:

That Burwell is put forward to the Cambridgeshire Combined Authority as a possible village to trial E Bikes.

The Silver Street junction with the Causeway to be brought to the attention of the Highways Department. Data maybe required to back the need for improvements at this point on Silver Street.

Liz Swift reported that the B1102 Group has not met for some time. They are trying to get a meeting with the Greater Cambridge Partnership, which currently mainly focuses on the City and South Cambs.

The Clerk reported that the Telephone Exchange car park is in use regularly by BT vehicles and that the lane leading to the building which is adjacent to the British Legion Social Club car park appears to be owned by East Cambs District Council. The Group accepted that it may not be possible for the Council to prevent the Royal Mail vehicles parking on Parsonage Lane.

S/051021/04 PFHI Application Buntings Path

Robin Dyos reported that he has submitted the Privately Funded Highways Improvement application for the flashing school signs in Buntings Path and the Local Highways Improvement application for the flashing signs on the Causeway and Ness Road.

We will have to pay for the survey which needs to be carried out on Buntings Path. This will cost in the region of £500.00. The applications have been acknowledged. No time scale has been given yet for the PFHI for Buntings Path.

Brenda Wilson and Gill Miller were thanked for collecting the data to support the applications.

S/051021/05 MVAS and Speed Watch Updates

MVAS

Paul Webb reported that he will be downloading the data from the MVAS sign in Buntings Path in the next couple of weeks and will then analyse the data and share with the Full Council. He highlighted the need for someone else to be involved with this in the future. Concern was raised with the format of the data downloaded and how this can be improved. One of the signs is using energy from the battery quicker than the other two. This may need to be investigated. Paul Webb explained that the signs are fixed at a lower level speed showing of approx.. 25 mph and have a highspeed level showing of about 40 miles per hour, which he believes to be settable. Allowing a machine to show higher speeds than this could encourage a competitive target for some motorists. Paul Webb to let the Clerk know suitable streetlights in the Causeway and Toyse Lane for the deployment of the MVAS signs.

Speedwatch

The next sessions have been arranged for week commencing 11th October 2021. These will be run by Robin Dyos. Paul Webb is due to arrange some, which Jim Perry will take part in and he will then arrange some of his own. Data collected from Speedwatch sessions can now be reported to the special 'Speed Task Force'. Better equipment is now being promoted. Jim Perry to do an update for volunteers for the next meeting.

Although enough now, more volunteers may be required if the number of sessions held increases.

Robin Dyos reminded everyone that Speedwatch is not the responsibility of the Parish Council but of an independent group.

S/051021/06 Winter Gritting

Both Paul Webb and George Rowland (Council Maintenance Officer) have registered with Highways for clearing the paths when required. It would be beneficial to have

another person to help. Advertising on Facebook or in Clunch for volunteers needs more impact.

S/051021/07 a) Residents' concerns re traffic speed Ness Road

A couple of residents had raised concern about speed in Ness Road. The Clerk has responded to the emails and phone calls explaining all that the Parish is doing to help reduce speed on Ness Road, both now and in the longer term. Robin Dyos reported that the most effective measure are speed tables. A survey may need to be carried out to be able to analyse data etc. to back any requests made to Highways. Chicanes such as in Quy have previously been rejected by the village.

Liz Swift commented that it is the County Council who are responsible for work to the Highways and not the Parish Council and this should be brought up with the Highways Department.

b) Uneven Footpaths

There have been concerns raised about several unlevel footpath surfaces in the village. These all need to be reported to Highways and raised with Officers when we meet.

S/051021/08 Safety Campaign

All members were given a document detailing the work on the project to the end of March 2020 when Covid had halted discussions and the Campaign deferred to a later date.

Paul Webb expressed the importance of ensuring that the Campaign can be effectively deliverable, as will not be good for the Council if the Campaign was to go ahead and fail. Thought needs to be given to the issues being addressed and how we intend to go about doing this. A soft launch at Burwell at Large thought to being held on 23rd March 2022 is an option, with the proper launch at Easter and a further push at Carnival.

The Group spent a few minutes discussing the focus areas of speed, parking, cycling and personal safety.

It was suggested that the Group should meet fortnightly to work on the Campaign and Paul Webb listed some possible dates based on this.

The Group agreed that they still felt it was worthwhile going ahead with the Safety Campaign. The next meeting will be on 12th October 2021, 11am at Mandeville Hall.

S/051021/09 Any other business

The Clerk asked the Group to think of any possible precept funding requirement prior to the next meeting, as the budget is likely to be prepared in time for the Assets and Environment Meeting at the end of November.

S/051021/10 Date of the next meeting

Date of the next meeting 16th November 2021 at 7.30 pm

Safety Campaign Meeting Tuesday 12th October at 11 am at Mandeville Hall.

Signed

Dated